

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:  
Markus EICKMANN *et al.*

Attorney Docket No.: 38137-0018

Serial No.: *To Be Assigned*

Art Unit: *To Be Assigned*

Filed: *Concurrently Herewith*

Examiner: *To Be Assigned*

For: VARICELLA ZOSTER VIRUS (VZV) IMMUNOREACTIVE PROTEIN VP26 AND  
ITS DIAGNOSTIC USE

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Director, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, following the title, please insert the following:

--This application is a divisional of U.S. Application No. 09/219,337; filed on December 23, 1998.--

Please amend as follows:

Page 3, paragraph 3, delete paragraph and insert --Figures 1(a), 1(b) and 1(c) depict a nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NOS 1 and 2) that corresponds with amino acid residues 1-235 of VP26 (ORF23) (Ellen strain). This contains a total of 235 AA and has a theoretical molecular weight of 24.4 kDa. The region in bold corresponds to an AA 12 – 235 VP26\* immunoreactive fragment having a total of 224 amino acids and a theoretical molecular weight of 23 kDa. The rhombus (#) symbolizes a stop codon.

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